

## **PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION**

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes.

The Administrator has received a complete application for water pollution control permit No. NEV2003516 from the following applicant:

US Department of the Army  
Hawthorne Army Depot (HWAD)  
Plasma Ordnance Demilitarization System (PODS)  
1 South Maine Avenue  
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415

The applicant has applied for a discharge permit for both Plasma Ordnance Demilitarization System (PODS) related water treatment system discharges, and for cooling water discharges. PODS is designed to remove metals from pyrotechnic and other ordnance at the Hawthorne Army Depot facilities at the Western Area Demilitarization Facility (WADF) located north of Hawthorne, in Mineral County, Nevada. The system discharge will include a treated water wastestream and a blowdown water discharge from the PODS plant non-contact cooling water system. Each discharge will be directed to specific dedicated onsite HDPE lined ponds. Monitoring of each wastestream is required; groundwater monitoring is required to ensure groundwater protection.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue a permit to discharge, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit modification or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control should submit their comments or request, in writing, by phone or FAX within thirty (30) days of newspaper publication, by February 20, 2004, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Water Pollution Control  
333 West Nye Lane  
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within thirty (30) days will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date. If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit modification, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by calling Icyll Mulligan of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9432. Copies of the Public Notice and Fact Sheet are available at the NDEP website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.